



University Research Initiative Awards Announced

The Department of Defense (DoD) announced today plans to award 20 grants totaling \$9.3 million in fiscal 2001 to 16 academic institutions to conduct research in 13 topic areas. These grants will be made under the fiscal 2001 DoD University Research Initiative (URI) program, designed to enhance universities' capabilities to perform science and engineering research and related education in science and engineering areas critical to national defense.

This targeted competition for both critical information protection (CIP) and high-confidence adaptable software is in addition to the fiscal 2001 URI competitions in the areas of multidisciplinary research, nanotechnology, and high-energy laser technology.

Subject to the successful completion of negotiation between DoD and the academic institutions, the 20 awards will provide long-term support for research, graduate students, and the purchase of equipment supporting specific science and engineering research themes in the fields related to CIP and software.

The average award will be \$875,000 per year over a three-year period. Two more years of

funding will be possible as options to bring the total award to five years. Out-year funding is subject to the availability of appropriations.

Today's announcement is the result of rigorous competition over many months under the DoD URI program. The competition drew 115 white papers, from which 74 proposals were received. After a thorough evaluation by technical expert teams, 20 of these proposals were selected for funding.

The list of projects selected for fiscal 2001 funding may be found on the Web at <http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Feb2001/d20010213cipuri.xls> or <http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Feb2001/d20010213cipuri.pdf>.

Editor's Note: This information is in the public domain at <http://www.defenselink.mil/news>. More information on the DoD science and technology partnership with universities may be found on the World Wide Web at <http://www.dtic.mil/dusdst/news.html>.